## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 04974 152239Z ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /096 W

-----152248Z 083597 /70

P R 150915Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4510
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
CINCPAC

CONFIDENTIAL SEOUL 4974

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, AR, PE, KN

SUBJECT: ARGENTINA BREAKS DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREA

SUMMARY: KOREANS DELIGHTED AT ARGENTINA BREAK OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREANS; REQUEST ANY AVAILABLE

INFORMATION. END SUMMARY

1. MOFA OFFICIAL EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AT JUNE 14 ARGENTINA BREAK OF DIPLOMATIC REALATIONS WITH NORHT KOREA FOLLOWING DPRK DIPLOMATS' IGNOMINIOUS DEPARTURE FROM ARGENTINA A WEEK EARLIER. IN JUNE 15 CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, HWANG YONG-CHAE, CHIEF OF MOFA CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA DIVISION, INTERPRETED EVENT AS ENCOURAGING RESULT OF EXTENSIVE ROKG DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS IN BUENOS AIRES, AND STATED GOA HAD INFORMALLY NOTIFIED KOREANS IN ADVANCE OF OFFICIAL CONFIDENTIAL.

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ANNOUNCEMENT. HWANG SAID HE BELIEVES BREAK MAY HAVE RESULTED FROM LONG-STANDING FRICTION BETWEEN GOA AND NORTH KOREANS OVER NORTH KOREAN POLITICAL ANDPROPAGANDA ACTIVITIES; ANTAGONISM WAS EXACERBATED MOST RECENTLY BY NORTH KOREANS' REFUSAL TO ALLOW GAO INVESTIGATION OF FIRE IN DPRK EMBASSY OR TO PAY FOR RELATED DAMAGES TO ARGENTINIAN PROPERTY.

- 2. HWANG SPECULATED ARGENTINIAN ACTION MAY ENCOURAGE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT TO HASTEN ITS ANTICIPATED PLANS TO WITHDRAW DIPLOMATIC CREDENTIALS FROM NORTH KOREAN COMMERCIAL REPRESENTATIVES IN LIMA. MOFA HAS BEEN AWARE FOR SOME TIME GOP CONTEMPLATED SUCH ACTION BECAUSE OF NORTH KOREAN RELUCTANCE TO IMPORT MINERALS FROM PERU.
- 3. ACTION: HWANG ASKED EMBOFF FOR ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO US CONCERNING CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING ARGENTINA BREAK IN RELATIONS WHICH MIGHT CONTRIBUTE TO EVALUATION GOA ACTIONS. WOULD APPRECIATE ANYTHING DEPARTMENT OR EMBASSY BUENOS AIRES CAN PROVIDE.
- 4. COMMENT: ARGENTINIAN GOVERNMENT IS SECOND IN A WEEK (FOLLOWING MAURITANIA) TO BREAK RELATIONS WITH DPRK. WE EXPECT DETERIORATION NORTH KOREAN DIPLOMATIC FORTUNES WILL FURTHER DISCOURAGE DPRK OFFENSIVE AT 32ND UNGA AND IF THERE ARE FURTHR SETBACKS LONG TERM EFFECTS COULD BE EVEN MORE PROFOUND. SNEIDER

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a **Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS INTERRUPTION

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 15-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am Decaption Note:

Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIE Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a Disposition Reason: Disposition Remarks: Document Number: 1977SEOUL04974 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

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Litigation History:
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Message ID: 2512777c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 07-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2141210 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

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DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH NORTH KOREANS; REQ UEST ANY AVAILABL TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, AR, PE, KN
To: STATE BUENOS AIRES

Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/2512777c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released **US** Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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